Actios Against Star TV

371. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Honourable Home Minister had assured the Rajya Sabha on May 9, 1995 that action would be taken against Star TV for their atrocious comment on Mahatma Gandhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that he had assured the House that, if necessary, fresh legislation would be passed to take care of such irresponsible programmes;

(c) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter; and

(d) what legislation if any, Government arc contemplating?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) to (d) In his response to the Special Mention in the House on May 9, 1995, the Home Minister had stated that if the present law fails short of the requirement going in for a new legislation would be considered. Any fresh legislation has not been considered necessary. In the meantime a stiff warning has been issued to the Star TV network and Television Eighteen India Limited to desist from a repetition of such misdemeanour in future. Also the programme has since been taken off the air.

Study for the Formation of Indian Ocean Trade Zone

372. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the suggestion of ASSOCHAM that a study be undertaken on the formation of special trade zone comprising countries in the Indian Ocean Zone; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is positively inclined to consider suggestions for cooperation among the Indian Ocean Rim countries. It has initiated exploratory contacts with the interested countries to determine the possibility and scope of such cooperation.

India participated in the first International Meeting of Experts from seven Indian Ocean Rim Countries (viz. Australia, India, Kenya, Mauritius, Oman, Singapore and South Africa) convened by Mauritius at Port Louis from March 29-31, 1995. The Meeting agreed on the principles, objectives and direction of the future action programme of an Indian Ocean Rim Initiative beginning with these seven countries to promote cooperation in trade, investment science and technology, tourism and human resource development.

Laying of new rail lines in Karnataka

373. SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to lay new rail lines in Karnataka during the current year; if so, the names of the places to be connected as a result thereof;

(b) whether any survey in this regard has been conducted; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when work in this regard will commence?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A new rail line is being constructed between Kottur and Hairhar.Subsequent to its inclusion in the Railway Budget 1995-96 and approval of Parliament, Final Location Survey has

been taken up, on the completion of which, land acquisition will begin. The work will be taken up once the land becomes available.

Installation of Effluent Treatment Plant

374. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court has directed Delhi Pollution Control Committee to identify the major industries in Delhi operating with or without Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP); and

(b) whether Government have been able to identify such industries; if so, the details thereof and the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The Supreme Court vide its Order dated 11.11.1994 directed the Delhi Pollution Control Committee, to file an affidavit giving a list of all themajor industries which arc operating inDelhi, specifically indicating, which ofthese industries have already set upEffluent Treatment Plants and whichlave not.

Pursuant to the Supreme Court's Order, Pollution Control Committee has submitted to the Court, a list containing the names of 77 industries operating in conforming/non-conforming areas. The matter is sub-judice.

Census on Population

375. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) comparative figures of population of the country as per the census held in the country in the year 1981 and 1991;

(b) percentage of increase in population as revealed in both the censuses;

(c) State-wise and religion-wise break up of the population as per the census of 1981 and 1991; and

(d) whether it is a fact that there is a disproportionate increase in the population of some religions, if so, the reaction of Government to this increase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (V Details are given below:—

	Census year	Total population	% increase during 1981-91
INDIA (including Assam & J&K)	1981@	683,329,097	+23.85
	1991**	846,302,688	
INDIA (excluding Assam)	1981	665,287,849	+23.84
	1991"	823,888,366	
INDIA (excluding Assam & J&K)	1981	659,300,460	+23.79
	1991	816,169,666	

The 1981 Census could not be held in Assam. The population figures for 1981 for Assam have been worked out by interpolation.

The 1991 Census was not held in Jammu & Kashmir. The population figures include the population for Jammu & Kashmir as projected by the Standing Committee of Experts on Population Projections, (October, 1989).